GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2968
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Social Security to Elderly
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the age-wise population in the country, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware that after a decade or so, the population of people above the age of 70 will increase tremendously, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to provide social security to the aged/ older persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) : As per the information provided by the Office of the Registrar General of India, the details of Age wise population in the country according to Census 2001 and Census 2011 are given at Annexure. As per Census 2011 the population of senior citizens in India vis-Ã -vis total population was as under:-

Actual Population (2011)

	Persons	Males	Females
Total Population	121.05 Cr.	62.31 Cr.	58.74 Cr.
Population of Sr. Citizens	10.38 Cr.	5.11 Cr.	5.27 Cr.

(b): The projected population aged 60+ and their percentage share in the total projected population of the country, for the year 2016 to 2026(as on 1st March) as per the May 2006 report of the Technical Group on Population Projections constituted by the National Commission on Population published by the Office of the Registrar General of India, is as under:

Projected Population of Senior Citizens (in crores)

Year	Persons	Male	Female
2016	11.81	5.81	5.99
2021	14.32	7.06	7.26
2026	17.32	8.46	8.86

(c) to (e): The Government of India announced the National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP), 1999. The Policy envisages State support to ensure financial and food security, healthcare, shelter and other needs of older persons, equitable share in development, protection against abuse and exploitation, and availability of services to improve the quality of their lives.

Subsequently, the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act was passed in 2007 to ensure need based maintenance for parents and senior citizens and their welfare. The Act provides for maintenance of parents/senior citizens by children/relatives obligatory and justiciable through Tribunals; revocation of transfer of property by senior citizen in case of negligence by relatives; penal provision for abandonment of senior citizens; establishment of Old Age Homes for indigent senior citizens; adequate medical facilities and security for senior citizens and protection of life and property.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated programme for Older Persons (IPOP) since 1992 with the objective of improving the quality of life of senior citizens by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities and by encouraging productive and active ageing. Under this Scheme, financial assistance (up to 95% in the case of States of Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim and North-eastern states and 90% for rest of the country) is provided to Non-Governmental/Voluntary Organisations, Panchayati Raj Institutions etc. for maintenance of Old Age Homes, Respite Care Homes and Continuous Care Homes, Multi-service centres, mobile medicare units, Day care centres for Alzheimer's disease /Dementia patients, physiotherapy clinics for older persons etc.

Keeping in view the recommendations made in the National Policy on Older Persons, 1999 as well as the State's obligations under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens, 2007, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had launched the National "Programme for Health Care of the Elderly" (NPHCE) during 2010-11 to address various health related problems of elderly people. The major objectives of the NPHCE are establishment of Department of Geriatric in identified Medical Institutions as Regional Geriatric Centre for different regions of the country and to provide dedicated health facilities in District Hospitals, CHCs, PHCs and Sub Centre levels through State Health Society.

Following facilities are being provided under the programme:
I. Geriatric OPD, 30 bedded Geriatric Ward for in-patient care etc. at Regional Geriatric Centre (RGCs)
II. Geriatric OPD and 10 bedded Geriatric Ward at District Hospitals.
III. Bi-weekly Geriatric Clinic at Community Health Centres (CHCs)
IV. Weekly Geriatric Clinics at Primary Health Centres (PHCs).
Provision of Aids and Appliances at Sub-Centres.